

January 6, 1988

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I try to cover them up. Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I want to thank you for letting me say a couple of words this morning. It is quite an honor for me to be here and there are some names that have been around the State Legislature for years, I won't say how many years, but I have respected, and to be a part of this body is a tremendous experience for me, and it sounds corny, but it is a great moment at this particular time. It will end soon, I know, when the honeymoon will be over quickly. The other thing I want to say is, Mr. President, would you yield to a question?

PRESIDENT: Ordinarily I ask the questions but we will overlook that at the moment.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I knew I could get away with it one time. When you get more seniority, does that mean that the name on the board gets bigger?

PRESIDENT: Well, it all depends but you have sort of taken advantage of us to start with by having such a long name. We tried to get rid of half of it, but in the kindness to you, we have decided to keep it all up there.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I thank you, and, again, I look forward to working with all of you as best as I can. When I finish serving, if I can say anything, I hope that I finish serving with pride and a little dignity and a little honor, and if I could end with that, I will be well satisfied, and I thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. I am sure that both of you know that you are replacing good members of this Legislature, both of them have been active and respected by this body, and we know that you will fall into line with our expectations of you. Senator Bernard-Stevens, you also, if you wish help from any of us, feel free to ask, and any of us will be glad to help you. We are glad to have you with us and welcome to the group. I should introduce one person, perhaps, that could be introduced at this time. We have the doctor of the day who we usually do not introduce, but the doctor of today helped found the program and also is the current President of the Academy of Family Physicians, sorry I messed that up for you, Dr. Michels, but Dr. Michels, would you please stand. We appreciate the program